KERALA STATE

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

1965-66

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

KERALA

(General)

1 *Location and area* Stretching in a southerly direction from South Kanara along the West Coast up to about 56 k lo metres north of Cape Comorin, the land's end of India, Kerala lies between 8° 18′ and 12° 48′ north latitude and between 74° 52′ and 77° 22′ east longitude It has an area of nearly 33 855 square kilometres

2 *Physical features* The Western Ghats on the east help the State to secure a share of both the south west and north-east monsoons The State falls within three natural divisions consisting of the flat coast strip or the lowland, the mountainous regions on the east or the highland and the intervening belt of hills and valleys or the midland The coastal regions command meteriological conditions of an agreeable character Cocoanut palms grow in abundance in the lowland The middle region abounds in agriculture produce like paddy tapioca, spices and cashewnut The plateaus on the hills have a temperate and pleasant climate In the highland regions the ever green forests present a variety of tropical vegetation comprising reserve and private forests, tea, rubber and cardamom plantations There is infinite richness of plants timbers and trees and there are manifold varieties of animals, birds, reptiles and insects

3 *Natural Wealth.* The State, though small, has a net work of rivers There are as many as 41 west flowing rivers and 3 east flowing ones With a high mountainous range all along the eastern border of the State, a relatively high rainfall and a good number of perennial rivers and natural waterfalls

Kerala is rich in hydro-electric potential. The hydro-electric resources of the State are mainly concentrated in the Periyar, Chalakudy, Pamba, Kuttiyady, Chaliyar and Bharathapuzha river basins. The power potential is estimated to be about 2.2 million K.W. at 60% L.F. So far only 14% of the potential has been harnessed. Many schemes are under way, for the utilisation of the water resources of the State for irrigation and power projects. Inland waterways provide a natural means of communication.

4. *Mineral wealth.* Rich and valuable deposits of minerals like *monozite, ilmenite, rutile, zircon* and silliminite occur in many parts of the beach areas of the State. China clay or Kaolin deposits, suitable for manufacture of porcelain, occur in different parts. An inferior type of clay occurs in many places and is being used for the manufacture of tiles and bricks. Deposits of graphite also occur in the State. The backwaters of the coastal area contain large quantities of lime shell which are being continuously replenished from time to time. This source of calcium carbonate is being used for the manufacture of cement.

5. *Forests.* Kerala is rich in forest wealth. The area under forest in the State is 10.56 lakh hectares which accounts for 27.4 per cent of the total area of the State. Most of these forest lands are conserved by Government as reserve forests. The area of reserve forests is about 8.85 lakh hectares. There are also large tracts of land known as 'un-reserves' most of which lie in the Malabar area. In addition to the reserves and un-reserves, there are large extents of private forests in the Malabar area, estimated to be about 1.2 lakhs of hectares.

6. *Population.* According to 1961 Census, the State has a population of 169.04 lakhs which forms about 3.85 per cent of the population of India. The State's density of population of 435 per sq. kilometre is about three times the all-India density of 144 per sq. kilometre. The rate of growth of population in Kerala is one of the highest for any Indian State. During the decade ending 1961, the population of the State increased by 24.76 per cent, whereas for the whole of India the corresponding figure is only 21.51 per cent.

7 *Occupation pattern.* In Kerala the proportion of self-supporting persons to the total population is slightly lower than in the rest of India If, however, one considers the working force which is made up of self supporting and earning dependent persons, its proportion to the local population is very much smaller in Kerala than in the rest of India The proportion of workers to the total population is 33 31 per cent While for the whole of India as much as 70 per cent of persons are engaged in agricultural occupations the proportion for Kerala is only less than 52 The proportion of workers engaged in non-agricultural production is 19 3 per cent for Kerala as against 11 7 per cent for the whole of India

8 *Literacy and Language* In literacy, Kerala leads the other States in India except the Union territory of Delhi According to 1961 Census 46 8 per cent of the population is literate, 55 per cent of men and 38 9 per cent of women are literate Malayalam is the mother tongue of the people Tamil is spoken by a majority of the linguistic minorities

CHAPTER II

LEGISLATURE

The State continued to be under President's rule during the year and the State Legislative Assembly stood dissolved.

The following Acts were enacted by the President during the period:—

1. The Kerala Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1965 (Act 2 of 1965).
2. The Kerala State Electricity Duty (Validation) Act, 1965 (Act 3 of 1965).
3. The Kerala Sales Tax (Levy and Validation) Act, 1965 (Act 4 of 1965).
4. The Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board (Amendment) Act, 1965 (Act 5 of 1965).
5. The Madras Preservation of Private Forests (Amendment) Act, 1965 (Act 6 of 1965).
6. The Kerala Hindu Places of Public Worship (Authorisation of Entry) Act, 1965 (Act 7 of 1965).
7. The Kerala Re-enacting Act, 1966 (Act 1 of 1966).
8. The Kerala Surcharge on Taxes (Amendment and Validation) Act, 1966 (Act 2 of 1966).
9. The Kerala University (Amendment) Act, 1966 (Act 3 of 1966).

CHAPTER III

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

(i) Civil Justice

1 *General* The permanent strength of the High Court of Kerala during the year under report was nine consisting of the Chief Justice and eight puisne Judges There were also three Additional Judges

The subordinate Tribunals consisted of nine District Judges, nine Additional District Judges, eighteen Sub Judges (Principal), nine Additional Sub Judges, sixty-two Munsiffs (Principal inclusive of Munsiff Magistrates) and twenty-six Additional Munsiffs There were also twelve Village Panchayat Courts and forty-seven Village Courts, the former under the administrative control of the respective District Judges exercising jurisdiction over the area and the latter under the administrative control of the Registrar of Village Courts

2 *Sittings* The High Court had 208 sittings during the year This is exclusive of the sittings of the Court during the recesses of summer, Onam and Christmas The average number of days the District Judges, Additional District Judges, Sub-Judges and Munsiffs sat for civil work (excluding the number of days the officers of the first three categories were engaged in sessions work) was 143, 175, 221 and 219 respectively

3 *Litigation.* The total number of suits instituted in all the courts during the year was 59 369 of which 17,440 were small cause suits

4 *Courts of Original Jurisdiction*

(a) *Village Panchayat courts* The number of suits instituted during the year was 465 There were altogether

CHAPTER II

LEGISLATURE

The State continued to be under President's rule during the year and the State Legislative Assembly stood dissolved.

The following Acts were enacted by the President during the period:—

1. The Kerala Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1965 (Act 2 of 1965).
2. The Kerala State Electricity Duty (Validation) Act, 1965 (Act 3 of 1965).
3. The Kerala Sales Tax (Levy and Validation) Act, 1965 (Act 4 of 1965).
4. The Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board (Amendment) Act, 1965 (Act 5 of 1965).
5. The Madras Preservation of Private Forests (Amendment) Act, 1965 (Act 6 of 1965).
6. The Kerala Hindu Places of Public Worship (Authorisation of Entry) Act, 1965 (Act 7 of 1965).
7. The Kerala Re-enacting Act, 1966 (Act 1 of 1966).
8. The Kerala Surcharge on Taxes (Amendment and Validation) Act, 1966 (Act 2 of 1966).
9. The Kerala University (Amendment) Act, 1966 (Act 3 of 1966).

CHAPTER III

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

(i) Civil Justice

1. *General.* The permanent strength of the High Court of Kerala during the year under report was nine consisting of the Chief Justice and eight puisne Judges. There were also three Additional Judges.

The subordinate Tribunals consisted of nine District Judges, nine Additional District Judges, eighteen Sub-Judges (Principal), nine Additional Sub-Judges, sixty-two Munsiffs (Principal inclusive of Munsiff-Magistrates) and twenty-six Additional Munsiffs. There were also twelve Village Panchayat Courts and forty-seven Village Courts, the former under the administrative control of the respective District Judges exercising jurisdiction over the area and the latter under the administrative control of the Registrar of Village Courts.

2. *Sittings.* The High Court had 208 sittings during the year. This is exclusive of the sittings of the Court during the recesses of summer, Onam and Christmas. The average number of days the District Judges, Additional District Judges, Sub-Judges and Munsiffs sat for civil work (excluding the number of days the officers of the first three categories were engaged in sessions work) was 143, 175, 221 and 219 respectively.

3. *Litigation.* The total number of suits instituted in all the courts during the year was 59,369 of which 17,440 were small cause suits.

4. *Courts of Original Jurisdiction.*

(a) *Village Panchayat courts.* The number of suits instituted during the year was 465. There were altogether

581 suits for disposal of which 481 were disposed of during the year.

(b) *Munsiff's Courts.*

(i) *Original Suits.* Including 39,746 original suits instituted during the year, there were 76,058 suits for disposal. Of these, 38,516 were disposed of and 113 were transferred.

(ii) *Small cause suits.* There were 22,674 small cause suits, of which 16,913 were disposed of and 13 were transferred.

(c) *Subordinate Judge's courts.*

(i) *Original suits.* The number of original suits instituted during the year was 1,634. Of the total number of 3,560 suits for disposal, 1,452 were disposed of and 71 were transferred.

(ii) *Small cause suits.* Including 838 suits instituted during the year, there were 1,199 suits for disposal. Out of these 781 were disposed of.

(d) *District Courts.*

(i) *Original suits.* Including the 84 suits instituted during the year, there were 277 suits for disposal. Of these, 75 suits were disposed of.

(ii) *Small cause suits.* There were 12 suits for disposal including eight suits instituted during the year. Of these, ten suits were disposed of, leaving 2 pending at the end of the year.

5. *Insolvency petitions.* During the year 261 insolvency petitions were instituted. There were altogether 475 petitions for disposal of which 228 were disposed of.

6. *The High Court.*

(a) *Original petitions.* Including writ petitions there were 6,829 original petitions for disposal during the year. Of these, 3,404 were disposed of.

(b) *Banking Company Petitions.* There were altogether 46 petitions for disposal of which 22 were disposed of. Four hundred and thirty-five Banking Company claims were filed

during the year. There were in all 615 claims for disposal of which 540 were disposed of.

(c) *Company petitions.* There were 44 petitions for disposal during the year of which 23 were disposed of.

(d) *Original suits.*—There were no original suits for disposal during the year.

7. *Appellate Litigation.*

(i) *Sub-courts:*

(a) *Regular appeals.* During the year 2,811 appeal suits were instituted. The total number of appeals for disposal was 7,979 of which 3,157 were disposed of.

(b) *Miscellaneous Appeals.* The total number of civil miscellaneous appeals for disposal including the 2,492 appeals received during the year was 3,573. Of these 1,545 appeals were disposed of.

(ii) *District Courts:*

(a) *Regular Appeals.* Including 5,421 appeals instituted during the year and 79 received otherwise, there were 8,868 appeals for disposal. Of these, 3,154 appeals were disposed of and 1,540 were transferred.

(b) *Miscellaneous Appeals.*—During the year 856 miscellaneous appeals were filed and 6 were otherwise received. There were 1,187 appeals for disposal of which 645 were disposed of and 128 were transferred.

(iii) *The High Court.* The following statement shows the number of appeals received, disposed of and pending in the High Court:—

Appeals	Received		Disposed of		Pending	
	1964-65	1965-66	1964-65	1965-66	1964-65	1965-66
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Regular Appeals	507	541	810	717	1,853	1,677
Writ Appeals	270	275	174	273	214	216
Election Appeals	..	1	..	1	..	..
Second Appeals	1,599	1,557	1,088	2,046	5,167	4,678
Civil Miscellaneous Appeals	183	162	142	212	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total	2,559	2,536	[illegible]		7,	

The average duration of regular appeals disposed of was 1,183 days, Writ appeals 119 days, Election appeal 72 days, second appeals 1,132 days and Miscellaneous appeals 390 days.

8. *Appeals to the Supreme Court.* Including the 50 petitions pending at the beginning of the year 157 petitions for leave to appeal came up for disposal. Of these 102 were disposed of, Special leave to appeal was granted by the Supreme Court in 38 cases against the decision of the High Court. Certificate was also granted by the High Court in 40 cases.

9. *Review, Revision and References.* There were 66 review petitions for disposal during 1965-66 of which 49 were disposed of. One thousand five hundred and forty-six civil revision petitions were filed during the year. Including those pending from the previous year, there were 2,488 such petitions for disposal of which 909 were disposed of. Sixty Tax Revision cases were instituted during the year. The total number of cases before the Court for disposal was 108 of which 57 were disposed of. During the year there were 174 income-tax references and 9 Miscellaneous references for disposal. Of these, 65 income-tax references and five Miscellaneous refe- were disposed of.

10. *Miscellaneous.* The total number of execution petitions filed during the year in all the courts together (including the Village Panchayat Courts) was 57,142. Out of the total number of 103,468 applications for disposal, 59,665 were disposed of. The amount realised in execution during the year under report was Rs. 1,76,70,016 and the number of judgement debtors sent to civil jail was 91. During the year 541,830 cases under the special enactments other than the Insolvency Act came up for disposal in all the courts. Of these 488,079 were disposed of.

11. *Legal Practitioners.* Renewal Certificates were granted to 96 persons to practise as First Grade Pleaders and two as Second Grade Pleaders. An amount of Rs. 2,430 was realised as fee.

12. *Inspection of Courts.* During the year the High Court inspected six District Courts, two Additional District Courts,

four Subordinate Judge s courts and one Munsiff's court The Chief Justice visited the courts at Trivandrum, Quilon and Kottayam The District Judges conducted the inspection of the subordinate courts in their respective districts during the year

13 *Legal Aid to the poor.* A sum of Rs 12,940 was spent under the head "Legal Aid to the Poor", for payment of fees to the Counsel for poor litigants

14 *Finance* The aggregate income of the department including the receipts under court fees in stamps during the year was Rs 77,52,964 and the total expenditure was Rs 1,15 33 876 The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs 71,58 686 and Rs 1,04,56 100

(ii) CRIMINAL JUSTICE

1 *General.* During the year under report there were 9 Sessions Judges, 9 Additional Sessions Judges, 27 Assistant Sessions Judges, 9 District Magistrates, 9 Sub Divisional Magistrates, 24 First Class Magistrates (including 10 Munsiff-Magistrates) and 50 Second Class Magistrates There were also 12 Honorary Bench Magistrate's Courts, 4 Honorary Special Magistrate's Courts, 2 Honorary Railway Magistrate's Courts and 6 Juvenile Courts

2 *Original cases*

Number of offences. The total number of offences reported during the year was 1,47,504 and the number of persons involved in these cases was 1,99,438

3 *Honorary Magistrate's Courts* The total number of cases for disposal was 27,995 involving 30 230 persons Of these 23 616 cases involving 25 089 persons were disposed of. Altogether 16,327 persons were convicted, the percentage of conviction being 65 08

4 *Other Magistrate's Courts*

Enquiries and Trials. The total num ted in all classes of Magistrate's Courts

Magistrate's Courts was 1,22,261. The details of disposal and pendency are shown below:

Classes of Magistrates Courts	*Number of cases*				*Average duration in days*	
	Disposed of		*Pending*			
	1964-65	1965-66	1964-65	1965-65	1964-65	1965-66
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
First Class Magistrate's courts (including District and Sub Divisional Magistrates courts)	40,588	40,803	5,204	4,945	76	67.04
Second Class Magistrate's courts	81,797	82,715	9,561	8,563	42	47.10

The general results of enquiries and trials before the Magistrates of several classes were as follows:

Classes of Magistrates	*Number of Persons*				*Percentage of conviction*	
	Acquitted or discharged		*Convicted*			
	1964-65	1965-66	1964-65	1965-66	1964-65	1965-66
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
First Class Magistrates (including District and Sub Divisional)	22,743	26,157	33,607	31,079	53.34	51.37
Second Class Magistrates	36,300	45,738	68,715	65,864	59.92	58.12
Honorary Magistrates	6,555	8,492	17,138	16,327	70.07	65.08

5. *Sessions Courts.* The total number of cases that came up for trial was 628, of which 547 were disposed of.

6. *Appeals*

(i) *District and Sub-Divisional Magistrate's Courts.* The number of appeals disposed of was 1,252 involving 1,852 persons. The percentage of appellants whose convictions were set aside or the proceedings against whom were quashed was 24.89.

One hundred and ninety one appeals involving 282 persons were pending at the end of the year

(ii) *Sessions Courts* In all the Sessions Courts together 983 appeals involving 1 257 persons were decided during the year The percentage of appellants whose convictions were set aside or the proceedings against whom were quashed was 22 28

(iii) *High Court* Including the 179 appeals pending at the beginning of the year there were 566 appeals involving 1 053 persons for disposal Of these 319 appeals involving 518 persons were disposed of

7 *Revision and References*

(i) *District Magistrate s Courts* The number of revision petitions presented before the District Magistrates during the year was 127 Including those pending from the previous year there were 138 such petitions for disposal of which 116 were disposed of

(ii) *Sessions Courts* There were in all 135 Revision petitions for disposal of which 99 were disposed of

(iii) *High Court* Six hundred and eighty two Revision petitions were filed during the year This includes 5 cases taken up *suo motu* Including the previous balance there were 1 035 Revision petitions for disposal of which 642 were disposed of There were 21 References for disposal and 14 were disposed of

8 *Referred Trials* There were 30 Referred Trials involving 31 persons for disposal during the period of which 23 trials involving 24 persons were disposed of Death sentence was confirmed in the case of 11 persons death sentence was commuted to rigorous imprisonment for life in the case of 10 persons and conviction was quashed and acquittal ordered in the case of three persons

During the year 32 petitions for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court were presented before the High Court. All these petitions were dismissed Special leave to appeal was granted in 8 cases by the Supreme Court against the of the High Court

9. *Sentences.* During the year sentences of death (subject to confirmation by the High Court) were passed on 28 persons. Imprisonment for life was ordered in the case of 80 persons; sentences of rigorous imprisonment and simple imprisonment were passed on 4,286 and 2,640 persons respectively as against 4,724 and 1,621 persons respectively in the previous year.

10. *Juveniles.* Including those whose cases were pending from the previous year, 1,115 juveniles (1,015 boys and 100 girls) were brought to trial during the year under report. Of these, 429 (380 boys and 49 girls) were sent to Borstal School, 76 (2 boys and 4 girls) were discharged, cases of 60 (59 boys and 1 girl) were otherwise decided, 108 (all boys) were released on bond, 122 (115 boys and 7 girls) were released on probation and 131 (125 boys and 6 girls) were delivered to guardians. One hundred and eighty-nine (156 boys and 33 girls) were awaiting trial at the end of the year.

11. *Fines.* The amount of fines imposed during the year was Rs. 23,30,452.05. An amount of Rs. 18,21,006.69 was realised during the year. Excluding the amount remitted on appeal or revision before recovery and that struck off as irrecoverable, the total amount pending recovery at the end of the year was Rs. 2,66,666.83. An amount of Rs. 12,771.71 was awarded as compensation to the complainants.

12. *Legal aid to the poor.* An amount of Rs. 12,940 was spent under the head 'Legal aid to the poor' for payment of fees to the counsel for poor litigants.

13. *Finance.* The receipts of the Department in cash alone during the year were Rs. 18,57,840 and the expenditure was Rs. 24,29,257.

(iii) VILLAGE COURTS

1. *General.* The Department was under the charge of the Registrar of Village Courts. Forty-seven village courts exercising civil jurisdiction in the villages of the former Cochin

State continued to function as in the previous year The Registrar of Village Courts conducted the statutory inspection of these courts

2 *Revision court* The Court of the Registrar of Village Courts continued to function as the Revision Court against the orders and decrees passed by the village courts During the year there were 53 sittings of the Revision Court of which 8 were held outside at different Taluk Headquarters There were 20 civil revision petitions for disposal during the year Out of these 16 petitions were disposed of leaving a balance of 4 petitions at the close of the year There were 7 transfer miscellaneous petitions for disposal Of these 5 were disposed of leaving a balance of 2 petitions at the end of the year

3 *Village courts* Each village court consisted of a President one Senior Judge and three Judges to preside over judicial sittings The quorum for constituting the bench is fixed as three There was a fall in the filing of suits in village courts There were 1 039 suits for disposal including 215 suits pending from the previous year Out of these 875 suits were disposed of leaving a balance of 164 suits at the end of the year There were 1 417 execution petitions for disposal including 295 petitions pending from the previous year Out of these 1 068 petitions were disposed of leaving a balance of 349 petitions at the close of the year The number of miscellaneous petitions for disposal during the year including the balance of 88 from the previous year was 4 157 Of these 4 033 petitions were disposed of during the year under report leaving a balance of 124 petitions at the close of the year The total value of the suits filed during the period was Rs 31 370 36 and that of the suits disposed of was Rs 30 458 34 as against Rs 37 265 86 and Rs 33 789 38 respectively during the previous year The number of witnesses examined was 234 The average duration of suits in village courts was 3 months and 4 days

4 *Receipts and Expenditure* The total receipts and expenditure for the year amounted to Rs 4 012 and Rs 2 29 916 respectively The corresponding figures for the [illegible] us were Rs 4 870 and Rs 2 01 502 respectively

CHAPTER IV

EXECUTIVE

1. *Governor.* Shri V. V. Giri continued to be the Governor of the State till the afternoon of 2nd April 1965 when Shri Ajit Prasad Jain took over. Shri Jain relinquished charge of the office of the Governor of Kerala with effect from the afternoon of 6th February 1966. Shri Bhagwan Sahay assumed charge as Governor of the State on the afternoon of 6th February 1966, and continued as Governor for the rest of the year.

2. *President's Rule.* The State Assembly constituted after the general elections held in March 1965 was dissolved and the administration of the State was taken over by the President by a proclamation dated 24th March 1965. The President's rule in the State has since been extended and the administration of the State continued to be carried on by the Governor on behalf of the President of India.

Shri R. Prasad, continued as Adviser to the Governor of Kerala during the period under report. Shri Govind Narain, was re-appointed as Adviser to the Governor from 5th April 1965 and functioned as Adviser till 22nd April 1965 forenoon. Shri N. E. S. Raghavachari, functioned as Adviser I to the Governor from 10th May 1965 afternoon till the end of the year.

3. *Secretariat.* The Secretariat consisted of the following Departments each under a Secretary or Additional Secretary headed by the Chief Secretary:

1. Public Department
2. Home Department
3. Revenue Department
4. Health and Labour Department

5 Education Department
6 Industries Department
7 Agriculture and Rural Development Department
8 Public Works Department
9 Planning Department
10 Store Purchase Department
11 Finance Department
12 Law Department
13 Election Department
14 Food Department

4 *District Administration* For purposes of general administration the State is divided into nine Districts The Collectors are responsible to the Government in the matter of revenue administration Each District comprises one or two Revenue Divisions for purposes of revenue and general administration and each Division is under the charge of a Revenue Divisional Officer The Revenue Divisions are further divided into Taluks under the charge of Tahsildars The village is the smallest unit of administration

CHAPTER V

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

SECTION A

(i) AGRICULTURE

1. *General.* The Department continued to function under the charge of the Director of Agriculture. He was assisted by two Additional Directors, four Joint Directors, a team of Deputy Directors and a Plant Protection Officer in administering the Department. The Education and Research wings of the Department were under the immediate administrative and technical control of the Principal, Agriculture College and Additional Director (Research).

During the year, the efforts of the Department were directed towards achieving increase in crop production through increases in crop yields per unit of land and by recourse to multiple cropping.

2. *Agricultural activities.* The main activities of the Department during the year were:—

(i) Multiplication and distribution of improved paddy seeds, green manure seeds, seeds and seedlings of cocoanut and arecanut, rooted cuttings of pepper, graft and seedlings of fruit plants, sugar cane setts, clove and nutmeg, banana suckers etc;

(ii) Distribution of fertilisers, insecticides, agricultural implements and Plant Protection equipments;

(iii) Popularisation of production and use of compost and green manure;

(iv) Plant protection activities;

(v) Issue of licences under Fertiliser Control Order,

(vi) Soil testing,

(vii) Provision of credit facilities to cultivators by way of short term medium term and long term loans,

(viii) Demonstrations on improved crop varieties and improved agricultural practices,

(ix) Agricultural exhibition and propaganda

(x) Crop competition and

(xi) Agricultural Research

3 *Seasonal effect on crops* The rainfall during the year as a whole was below normal Owing to the late onset of pre monsoon showers the first crop of paddy (virippu) was subject to severe drought in the yearly stages Heavy rainfall during the latter half of May and in June did considerable damage to the paddy crop on account of flooding The north east mon soon was far below normal and the crops suffered from drought in the later stages

4 *Important achievements* The important achievements of the Department during the year were

(1) Fertiliser consumption	*Tonnes*
(i) Nitrogenous fertilisers in terms of nitrogen	15 000
(ii) Phosphatic fertilisers in terms of phosphorous	12 700
(iii) Potassic fertilisers in terms of Potash	11 500
(2) Compost produced	
(i) Rural compost	4 57 lakh tonnes
(ii) Urban compost	0 325 ,
(3) Area covered under green manure	4 37 lakh hectares
(4) Area covered under improved seeds (paddy)	4 05 ,
(5) Area benefited by Plant Protection measures	

(6) Quality planting materials distributed:

(i) Cocoanut seedlings	7.38 lakhs
(ii) Arecanut seedlings	12.59 lakhs
(iii) Rooted pepper cuttings	6.92 lakhs
(iv) Disease free banana suckers	9.61 lakhs
(v) Grafts	1.50 lakhs
(7) Production of rice in the State	10.06 lakhs tonnes (forecast)

5. *Agricultural Farms.* There were 11 Agricultural Farms/Research Stations functioning during the year including the Integrated Seed Farms, Eruthempathy. These farms conducted trial cultivation of crops of economic importance suited to the region and distributed improved planting materials like paddy seeds, vegetable seeds, fruit plants, cocoanut seedlings, arecanut seedlings, tapioca stems, etc. Improved methods of agriculture were also demonstrated in some of the farms. The Research stations also undertook research work on Horticultural crops.

6. *Agricultural Information Service.* The following periodical publications were brought out by the Agricultural Information Service during the year:—

(i) Kerala Karshakan (Monthly)

(ii) Kerala Farming (Quarterly)

(iii) Agricultural Officers' Guide Book (Annual)

Other publications like farm bulletins, leaflets, folders booklets and posters were also brought out. A documentary film on agriculture was produced. One Exhibition and 150 film shows were also conducted by the Information Service.

7. *Agricultural Marketing Service.* During the year surveys on banana, paddy, rice products, fruits and vegetables, tamarind, etc., were conducted. Market Intelligence Centres were started at Parakode, Wadakkancherry and Parur. Studies on crop prospects, market arrivals, despatches, crop outlook, etc., were carried out and incorporated in the Weekly Market Bulletins. A booklet on "Market Intelligence Centres of Kerala" was compiled and published. Five egg grading, one pine-apple

grading and one arecanut grading centres were organised Four Agricultural Assistants underwent training in Agricultural Marketing, two at Nagpur and two at Hyderabad Financial assistance amounting to Rs 19,950 by way of loan was given to two Fruit Preservation Units in the State

8 *Agricultural Engineering Services.* One paddy seed drill was designed and developed A fertiliser placer was fabricated The Cashewnut Sheller was also developed Hiring out of oil engines, tractors and bull dozers to cultivators, installation of filter point tube wells and demonstration with improved agricultural implements were the other important works attended to by the Engineering services

9 *Intensive Agricultural District Programme*

(a) *Alleppey District.* The programme was implemented in all the 17 Blocks in the District There were 215 co-operative societies with a membership of 1,33 385 and share capital amounting to Rs 47,92,758 Loans amounting to Rs 38 09,203 were distributed based on farm production plans prepared There was much improvement in the fertiliser consumption and in the usage of improved seeds and plant protection chemicals Three hundred and eleven paddy demonstration plots, 341 cocoanut demonstration plots, 8 pepper demonstration plots, 50 sugarcane demonstration plots and 71 Tapioca demonstration plots were laid out Five hundred and thirty iron ploughs and 52 Japanese hoes were distributed to cultivators in the Programme area Four power tillers and one tractor were sold out on hire purchase The construction of the Soil Testing Laboratory was almost completed During the year 2996 soil samples were taken for analysis Package of practices were evolved for different crops and composite demonstrations organised based on these package of practices The Statistical Wing under the Package Programme attended to the Bench mark and Assessment survey For evaluating the impact of the programme 638 crop cuttings on paddy and 350 crop cuttings on cocoanut were conducted Under emergency food production drive, an area of 1344 4 hectares was ' tapioca, 403 6 hectares under fruit plants 381 ? and 414 4 hectares under vegetables

(b) *Palghat District.* The Package Programme was implemented in all the 15 Blocks (excepting the T.D. Block). A total number of 41,443 individual farm production plans were prepared covering 4,31,612 acres. Credit to the tune of Rs. 44,96,380 was distributed during the year through co-operatives based on the above production plans. During the period 460 fertiliser demonstrations were laid out. 744.165 tonnes of paddy seeds, 81,801 Nos, cocoanut seedlings, 1,98,393 Nos. arecanut seedlings, and 43,960 Nos. pepper cuttings were distributed to the cultivators. The Agricultural Engineering Workshop at Malampuzha was commissioned during the year under report. Besides distributing 296 Iron ploughs and 91 Japanese inter-cultivators to the cultivators, 309 pump sets and 20 tractors were also issued to them on hire purchase system. A total number of 289 demonstrations were organised with improved implements. The Statistical Wing attached to the package programme attended to crop cutting survey as a part of 'Bench Mark Assessment Survey'. The crash programme for augmenting vegetable production was implemented in Nemmara, Coyalmannam and Palghat Blocks.

10. *Other Programmes.*

(i) *Phyto-Chemical Schemes.* The scheme was continued during the year. Altogether 20 acres of land was planted with seeds and stem cuttings collected from the existing Rauwolfia Serpentina plantations. In addition, cultivation of green manure crops in forest land and cultivation of cocoa in about 7 acres were carried out. In about 50 acres of existing cocoa plantations, dried up plants were also replaced with fresh seedlings.

(ii) *Cashew Plantation Scheme.* With the planting of 1559.25 acres with cashew during the year, the target of 5000 acres under the scheme was achieved in full.

(iii) *Cocoa Development Scheme.* With a view to supplying quality seedlings, three nurseries at Mannuthy, Koothali and Ambalavayal were functioning. During the year 52,964 seedlings were distributed to cover an area of 133 acres. Small-scale plantations were established in various research stations and District Agricultural Farms, to serve as demonstration plots.

(iv) *Cardamom Development Scheme* The Cardamom estates in the High Ranges were surveyed with a view to assessing the incidence of Kattee disease. The percentage of incidence was found to be higher in older plantations Plant protection measures were advocated and pesticides were sold to cardamom growers Sprayers were also hired out to them The three existing nurseries were continued during the year and 124,000 seedlings were raised

(v) *Sea Island Cotton Development Scheme* An area of 934 acres was brought under cultivation of sea island cotton in Trichur, Palghat and Kozhikode districts There was widespread drought during the year which affected the crop adversely A quantity of 52 370 kg of 1st quality and 11 260 kg of 2nd quality kapas was produced

(vi) *Indo-Japanese Demonstration Farm, Chengannad* The entire area of the Farm (23 71 acres) was handed over to the Japanese Experts for cultivation under their supervision During the year model demonstration on paddy cultivation was made in the farm by using PTB2, PTB9, PTB10 Tainan 3 and T 141 strains for the virippu crop and PTB10 PTB20 PTB12 Taichung Native 1, Tainan, ADT27 and T-141 strains for Mundakan crop 3619 kg of PTB2, 2724 kg of PTB9 and 700 kg of PTB10 seeds were distributed from the farm during the year

(vii) *Fertiliser Demonstration Scheme* The scheme was continued to be implemented in all the nine districts of the State under the control of the Fertiliser Demonstration Officer 5,923 demonstrations were laid out during the year

(viii) *Rubber Plantation scheme* The scheme was continued during the year In the Southern region in addition to the plots allotted previously, about 50 vacant plots at Theruvumbhagom were allotted to persons in the districts of Trivandrum, Quilon, Alleppey, Ernakulam and Trichur In the northern region eight resumed plots and nine vacant plots were allotted to cultivators A total amount of Rs 3 68 771 95 was disbursed as loan to the allottees

(ix) *Horticultural Development Scheme.* The work , confined to three fruits, viz, mango, pineappl b

During the year good orchards of these fruits were located at different parts of the State and discussions held with the orchard owners. Publicity for growing improved varieties and for adopting scientific methods was given.

11. *Intensive Agricultural Area Programme.* The programme was under implementation in 29 blocks in the districts of Ernakulam, Trichur and Calicut. In addition to paddy, cocoanut and tapioca were also brought under the programme during the year. A total number of 36,525 individual farm production plans were prepared and an amount of Rs. 17,03,295 was disbursed as loan to the farmers. Thirty-nine training camps were organised under the programme during the period and 1,168 officials and non-officials were trained.

12. *Agricultural Research.* Research investigations and experiments for the improvement and development of important crops viz., rice, cocoanut, oilseeds, pepper, cardamom, ginger, banana, pineapple, cashewnut, pulses, lemongrass, tobacco and oil palm were undertaken during the year under report. Six Rice Research Stations at Pattambi, Kayamkulam, Mannuthy, Vytilla, Moncompu and Koottarakara, three Cocoanut Research stations at Nileswar, Balaramapuram and Kumarakom, an Oilseeds Research Station at Kayamkulam, two Pepper Research Stations at Taliparamba and Thodupuzha, a Cardamom Research Station at Pampadampara, a Ginger Research Station at Thodupuzha, a Banana Research Station and a Pineapple Research Station at Trichur, a Cashew Research Station at Anakkayam, a Pulses Research Station at Sasthamcottah, a Lemongrass Research Station at Odakkali, a Tobacco Research Station at Kanhangad and a scheme for trial and development of improved variety of oil palm in Kerala were functioning under the Department. Besides there were three Agronomic Research Stations at Periyaram (Chalakudy), Coyalmannam and Karamana which undertook irrigation, manurial, cropping pattern experiments, etc., on paddy.

13. *Agricultural College and Research Institute.*—The college offered instruction for B.Sc. (Ag.) and M.Sc. (Ag.) courses. The teaching, research and extension work was

carried out through eight well organised divisions the details of which are given below —

(i) *Division of Agronomy* The Division carried out the teaching work at the B Sc (Ag) and M Sc (Ag) levels in preparing students for the University examinations Six students were presented for the M Sc (Ag) examination during the year The members of the teaching staff and the post graduate students undertook many researches on agronomic problems The Division continued to implement the two research schemes viz the Scheme for studies on the Foliar Nutrition of Crops and the Scheme on the role of legumes in the cropping pattern in the coastal regions of Kerala

(ii) *Division of Agricultural Chemistry* Instruction in Agricultural Chemistry and Agricultural Bacteriology was imparted to B Sc (Ag) students Five students were presented for the M Sc (Ag) examination in July-August 1965 Studies on (a) high plant nutrient absorbing capacity of Eupatorium odoratum (b) reclamation of saline soils of Kerala and (c) acid soils of Kerala and (d) Chemical, microbiological and agronomic studies of Kuttanad soils and (e) survey of Microflora of radio-active soils of Kerala were undertaken by the Division 7,210 soil samples, 212 fertilizer samples, 12 samples of bonemeal, 125 compost samples and 125 samples of pesticides were analysed during the year under report

(iii) *Division of Agricultural Entomology* The division attended to the teaching of B Sc (Ag) and M Sc (Ag) students in Entomology Research activities such as survey and control of insect pests of stored spices (ginger, pepper and cardamom) and arecanut, studies on insect pests of field crops in relating to insecticidal and biological methods of control, scheme for the biological control of Nephantis serinopa and scheme for the experimental cultivation of lac in Kerala were carried out by the Division The Division trained 96 Agricultural Extension Officers in plant protection during the year It issued 53 phytosanitary certificates on e
cashew pepper, coir etc Samples of
received from the Agriculture Department
necessary advice rendered